

To: Brush, Jason[Brush.Jason@epa.gov]
From: Mark Bradley
Sent: Wed 6/10/2015 12:16:05 AM
Subject: Re-evaluate Vigneto

Hello,

I cannot believe the Army Corps of Engineers would agree that 70,000 people could live in this proposed development in the arid land near Benson. Where I am originally from (Indiana) the San Pedro would be called a creek, not a river!

Two Global Important Bird Areas along the San Pedro River are being threatened by the Villages at Vigneto (Vigneto), a city-sized development proposed on 12,000 acres of private land located southwest of Benson, Arizona. The sprawling, Tuscany-inspired development is proposed by El Dorado Benson, LLC (El Dorado).

Vigneto would include 27,760 new homes, commercial developments, golf courses, parks, vineyards, orchards, resorts, and an extensive road and utility network. Vigneto would potentially attract up to 70,000 new residents. This population explosion would dramatically impact the quality of life of the town of Benson, which currently has only 5,100 residents.

On average, Tuscany, Italy receives 36 inches of rain per year – while Benson, Arizona receives less than 13 inches. We are concerned that attempting to re-create Tuscany in the desert is unsustainable and irresponsible.

The Vigneto development proposal has raised serious concern from local area residents and scientists. One of the primary concerns is the significant projected increase in ground water pumping from Vigneto. There is concern that over time, the extensive deep groundwater pumping that would be required to support Vigneto would create a “cone of depression”, contributing to long term potable ground water depletion and ultimately **reduced surface water flows in the San Pedro River. This could put the region’s birds, biodiversity, downstream water users, and economy at risk.**

Please reconsider the water permit for this city of 70,000. There is no way the natural resources can sustain this city.

Sincerely,
Mark & Tina Bradley

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Sent from Windows Mail